

CPYRGHT

PRESIDENT MEETS AIDES ON VIETNAM

He Sees McNamara, Bundy
and Rusk at Texas Ranch

Special to The New York Times

AUSTIN, Tex., Dec. 7.—President Johnson conferred today with his top military and diplomatic advisers on the war in Vietnam.

Meeting with Mr. Johnson at his ranch 65 miles west of here were Secretary of State Dean Rusk, Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara, McGeorge Bundy, the President's Special Assistant for National Security Affairs, and Robert Komer, Mr. Bundy's deputy.

The Texas White House disclosed the general subjects discussed at the six-hour conference, but nothing of the substance of the conversation.

Mr. McNamara reported to the President on "the status of operations in South Vietnam," according to the White House announcement. The group also studied "various budgetary matters affecting the national security preliminary to a session the President will have Saturday morning on the defense budget," the announcement said.

Joint Chiefs to See Him

The President's meeting at the ranch Saturday will involve Secretary McNamara, Deputy Defense Secretary Cyrus L. Vance and the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

The United States now has about 200,000 men in South Vietnam. United States military leaders in Saigon have asked Mr. McNamara to approve an increase to 350,000 or 400,000 men, according to an informed source there.

According to military experts in Washington, this would mean calling up some reserve and national-guard personnel.

The President said yesterday that the United States would supply whatever men were needed "to help the people of South Vietnam resist aggression." But he would not predict how many this would be.

Mr. Johnson also discussed with his advisers the meeting of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's foreign ministers to be held in Paris Dec. 14 to 16.

The White House said that Secretaries Rusk and McNamara would leave Sunday for the meeting.

Meanwhile, the White House announced that President Johnson's meeting with Pakistan's President, Mohammad Ayub Khan, on Dec. 14 and 15 would be at the White House in Washington.

The meeting will be the first of a series between the President and three foreign leaders spread over a week.

In preparation, the President reviewed with his diplomatic and military advisers several matters that he will discuss with the foreign leaders, the White House said.

Mr. Johnson will see Prime Minister Wilson of Britain Dec. 17. The site for that meeting has not been fixed, although there is a strong expectation that it, too, will be Washington.

The President will meet with Chancellor Ludwig Erhard of West Germany Dec. 19 and 20. The White House has already announced that this meeting will be at the President's ranch. However, it is possible that the meeting will be moved to Washington.

The meeting with President Ayub is expected to center on relations between Pakistan and India and conditions under which United States aid to both countries could be resumed. There is a strong possibility that the President and Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri of India will meet early next year.

CPYRGHT